AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously presented) A method, comprising:

receiving requirements for a plurality of modules;

determining an inter-module dependency tree, the inter-module dependency tree

being based on the requirements; and

modifying a module function in accordance with the inter-module dependency

tree.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising associating a

configuration parameter with an inter-module dependency in [[said]] the

inter-module dependency tree.

(Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising storing a default value for a 3.

configuration parameter.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein [[said]] determining an

inter-module dependency tree comprises associating a module command with an

inter-module dependency.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein associating a module command with

an inter-module dependency comprises determining a phase for a command of a

module.

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- 6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein [[said]] modifying a module function comprises determining a command script based on a command association with an inter-module dependency.
- 7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein [[said]] modifying a module function comprises associating a command of [[one]] <u>a first</u> module with a command of [[another]] <u>a second</u> module based upon an inter-module dependency for the first module and the second module.
- 8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7 wherein associating [[a]] the command of [[one]] the first module with a command of another the second module comprises associating [[a]] the command of [[one]] the first module with [[a]] the command of another the second module based upon a phase identification.
- 9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising initializing a module using the inter-module dependency tree.
- 10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein [[said]] modifying a module function comprises reconfiguring a module function.
- 11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein [[said]] modifying a module function comprises shutting down a module function.
- 12. (Currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:a system controller, the system controller comprising circuitry to store aninter-module dependency tree, the inter-module dependency tree being

Attorney Docket No.: 42390P11652 Application No.: 09/895,936 based on requirements for a plurality of modules, the system controller to modify a module function in accordance with the inter-module dependency tree; and

a configuration manager coupled to [[said]] the system controller.

- 13. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising a current configuration database coupled to [[said]] the configuration manager, the current configuration database containing one or more configurations for the plurality of modules that are not retained when the apparatus is initialized.
- 14. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising a permanent configuration database coupled to [[said]] the configuration manager via a command line interface, the permanent configuration database containing one or more configurations that are retained when the system is initialized.
- 15. (Cancelled)
- 16. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein [[said]] the system controller further comprises circuitry to modify a module function in accordance with an inter-module dependency tree.
- 17. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein [[said]] the configuration manager comprises circuitry to receive a configuration parameter change request.

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- (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein [[said]] the 18. configuration manager comprises circuitry to modify a module function in accordance with a configuration parameter change request.
- 19. (Currently amended) A system, comprising: a network component comprising a system controller coupled to a configuration
 - a component coupled with the system controller to store an inter-module dependency tree, the inter-module dependency tree being based on requirements for a plurality of modules, the system controller to modify a module function in accordance with the inter-module dependency tree; and

a station coupled to [[said]] the network component.

20. (Cancelled)

manager;

- 21. (Currently amended) The system of claim 19, wherein said node the system further comprises a permanent configuration parameter database coupled to the configuration manager via a command line interface, the permanent configuration database containing one or more configurations that are maintained when the system is rebooted.
- 22. (Currently amended) The system of claim 19, wherein [[said]] the station comprises a server to forward a transaction via [[said]] the network component.

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- 23. (Currently amended) The system of claim 19, wherein [[said]] the station comprises a management workstation to configure said network component.
- 24. (Currently amended) A machine-readable medium containing instructions, which when executed by a machine, cause [[said]] the machine to perform operations, comprising:

receiving requirements for a plurality of modules;

determining an inter-module dependency tree, the inter-module dependency tree being based on the requirements; and

modifying a module function in accordance with the inter-module dependency tree.

- 25. (Currently amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 24 wherein [[said]] determining an inter-module dependency tree comprises associating a module command with an inter-module dependency.
- 26. (Currently amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 24 wherein [[said]] modifying a module function comprises determining a command script based on a command association with an inter-module dependency.
- 27. (Currently amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 24 wherein [[said]] modifying a module function comprises associating a command of one module with a command of another module based upon an inter-module dependency.
- 28. (Previously presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 24 further comprising initializing a module using the inter-module dependency tree.

Attorney Docket No.: 42390P11652 Application No.: 09/895,936 29. (Currently amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 24 wherein [[said]] modifying a module function comprises reconfiguring a module function.

30. (Currently amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 24 wherein [[said]] modifying a module function comprises shutting down a module function.

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